

THE SITUATION IN MOROCCO

I. Indochina Crisis also Affects French in Morocco:

A. Moroccan nationalist--extremist,

terrorist--expected exert continued or greater effort.

1. Unable throw French out: but can tie up troops needed elsewhere.

2. Nationalists seeking, getting support Arab-Asian states.

B. Other hand, French, losing in Indochina, more determined hold North Africa.

C. Communists expected take advantage.

1. First Orbit broadcasts beamed North Africa heard 27 May (Budapest).

2. Extremist situation increases likelihood CP participation with Nationalists against French.

II. Prospects:

A. French concern shown 20 May change

Resident General (Lacoste for Guillaume).

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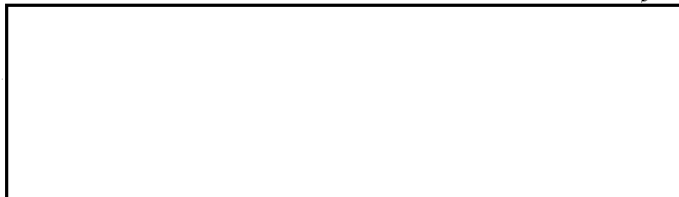
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1. Few indications yet Lacoste program.

- (a) Personally favors more moderate policy.
- (b) "Nationalists" invited Paris talks 2 June.



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B. Lacoste's task extremely difficult:

1. Friction, frustration, distrust, 1950 hardened positions.

- (a) Tough anti-nationalist policy
French settlers unchanged.
- (b) Nationalists probably not settle
short public promise independence
with timetables and immediate
steps autonomy. Change sultans
not enough.

**2. American consul Casablanca believes
only way out for French is:**

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(a) Release Nationalists, collaborate

with them; no others have support
Moroccan masses.

(b) Replace present sultan for one
who could command widespread
respect.

(c) Warns, in view of settler
opposition, improvement must come
from Paris.

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